Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 IO-13 /091 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6570

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, GE, VM, CB

SUBJECT: GDR MEDIA TREATMENT OF SRV-CAMBODIAN

BORDER CONFLICTS

1. THE GDR HAS MADE CLEAR ITS SUPPORT FOR VIETNAM IN ITS DISPUTE WITH CAMBODIA. ALL GDR MEDIA HAVE GIVEN FAIRLY PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE BORDER CONFLICT BETWEEN THE SRV AND CAMBODIA. MOST OF THESE STORIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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APPEAR TO BE REPEATS OF WESTERN ACCOUNTS OF THE FIGHTING, THOUGH THEY TEND TO BE SOMEWHAT SLANTED IN THE SRV'S FAVOR. THERE HAS, HOWEVER, BEEN NO DIRECT CONDEMNATION OF THE CAMBODIAN REGIME. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF JANUARY 25 CARRIES A DECLARATION OF THE VIETNAM SECTION OF THE GDR SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE EXPRESSING ITS "DEEP CONCERN" OVER THE CONFLICT AND

DECLARING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE DECEMBER 31ST SRV
DECLARATION ON BORDER QUESTIONS AND ITS SUPPORT OF
THE SRV'S DECLARED WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE BORDER
QUESTIONS "IN A SPIRIT OF BROTHERLY FRIENDSHIP."

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NOT OFFICIAL, THE SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE STATEMENT IS CERTAINLY SANCTIONED BY HIGH AUTHORITY AND REFLECTS GDR POLICY. IN VIEW OF ITS CLOSE TIES TO VIETNAM, THE GDR'S POSITION IS NOT SURPRISING. BOLEN

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TAGS: PGOV, GC, VM, CB

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